

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, 1948

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of placing before you a Report on the Health and Health Services of the District for the year ended 31st December, 1948. The Report of your Sanitary Inspector, which is complementary to this Report, has already been put before you.

The Report contains details of certain health services which are not the responsibility of the Council, but I feel it is desirable that a review of all the health services in the area should be embodied in one document and that the Council would like to have this information at their disposal.

The year 1948 stands out both locally and generally as a land-mark in social medicine. A National Health Service was established in Great Britain. The need to have all medical services available to everyone as a right of citizenship and a primary function of national policy has been felt by all nations which share our language and have the same basic political philosophy. Australia and South Africa are at the present time working out National Health Schemes similar to our own, and New Zealand did so before we did. Even in the United States of America, where the autonomous powers of the individual states make it difficult for the Federal Government to carry out a National Health Policy, much has been done by the award of Federal-Grants-in-Aid to level up the health services in that continent, and the institution of a National Health Service is believed by many to be imminent. It is safe to say that of all these countries, Britain is the most advanced and has a Health Service most resembling what she wants at the present time.



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It is not surprising that the setting up of such a vast organisation has produced its own troubles, many of them of considerable magnitude. The Regional Hospital Boards are striving to set up a complicated administrative machine in the shortest possible time. There are too few hospital beds, and far too few nurses to look after them. Even more serious is the shortage of bed and sanatorium accommodation for the tuberculous patient - a state of affairs likely to reflect on the incidence of tuberculosis in the future. The Dental Service has been over-run and the Ambulance Service stressed severely. The rush to obtain spectacles and hearing-aids has produced long delays before these articles can be supplied.

We are hindered in our progress towards health for all by the shortage of houses. The number of applicants for Council houses on the register at the end of 1948 was 500. There are too few schools and too many children in the classes.

1948 also saw changes in local administration. For the first time a full-time Medical Officer of Health was appointed to serve the Urban District of Knottingley, along with Pontefract Borough, the Urban District of Featherstone and the Rural District of Osgoldcross. At the same time he was made responsible for the administration of the County Health Services in these areas. It was hoped that setting up a health unit covering a population of 50,000 and making one official responsible for all health services within this unit, would make possible a more personal type of administration and satisfactory co-ordination of the services offered.

There is a great need for a Maternity Home to serve the needs of the area. At the present time our cases have beds allocated to them through the County pool. These beds are available at Hazlewood Castle, Tadcaster; Walton Hall, near Wakefield; the Castleford Maternity Home, and occasionally at Staincliffe, near Dewsbury. In view of the delay necessarily entailed in getting patients to hospital, as well as the heavy load thus placed on the Ambulance Service, this state of affairs

The first part of the paper discusses the importance of the study and the objectives of the research. It also outlines the methodology used in the study and the results obtained. The second part of the paper discusses the implications of the study and the conclusions drawn from the research. It also outlines the limitations of the study and the areas for further research. The third part of the paper discusses the significance of the study and the contributions it makes to the field. It also outlines the practical applications of the study and the policy implications of the research. The fourth part of the paper discusses the future of the study and the areas for further research. It also outlines the challenges faced by the study and the opportunities for future research. The fifth part of the paper discusses the conclusion of the study and the final thoughts of the researcher. It also outlines the key findings of the study and the overall message of the research.

cannot be regarded as satisfactory. Nor is the accommodation available sufficient to meet the demand. At the present time priority is given to a mother having her first baby, or where the home conditions are unsuitable for a domiciliary confinement, and most cases coming into these categories are being accommodated. Cases which do not come into the above categories, however, usually have their applications refused.

P A R T O N E

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area of the District	2,837 acres
Population, mid-year, Registrar-General's estimate	9,602
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1948	2,695
Rateable value at end of 1948	£39,800
Product of penny rate	£144. 6. 2d.

These figures show a population increase of 422.

VITAL STATISTICS -

Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	107	105	212
Illegitimate	9	3	12
Total -	116	108	224

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population - 23.3
Percentage of illegitimate live births - 5.4

Still Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	2	2	4
Total -	6	4	10

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) - 34.5
Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population - 0.8

Deaths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
All age groups	54	48	102

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(Deaths, continued)

<u>Infants under 1 year</u>		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate		<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>
Illegitimate		<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Total -		<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>

Maternal Deaths

NIL

Death Rates

General rate per 1,000 population	10.6
All infants per 1,000 live births	35.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	33.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	83.0
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births	N I L

The number of births is 25 fewer than last year, and the birth rate has dropped slightly from 27.1 to 23.33. Still-births show a rise from 1 to 8. Deaths have fallen by 5. I am pleased to be able to report once again that there were no maternal deaths during the year. The infant mortality rate has fallen from 60.24 to 35.71 - a gratifying reduction.

The principal causes of death are set out in the following Table.

T A B L E I

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	5	-	5
Tuberculosis, non-pulmonary	-	1	1
Measles	1	-	1
Cancer	10	10	20
Diabetes	-	1	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	3	3	6
Heart diseases	14	9	23
Bronchitis	6	3	9
Pneumonia	4	3	7
Other respiratory diseases	2	-	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	-	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	1	1
Appendicitis	1	-	1
Other digestive diseases	-	3	3
Nephritis	-	1	1
Premature birth	-	1	1
Con. Mal. Birth Injury Infant Dis.	-	1	1
Road traffic accident	-	1	1
Other violent causes	2	1	3
All other causes	5	9	14
	54	48	102

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Heart disease once again provides the highest death rate from individual causes, 23 deaths being attributed to it; this is a decrease of 14 on last year's figure. The slight increase in the number of deaths from cancer will be noted; this represents a general trend.

Infant Mortality

The following Table gives causes of infant deaths during 1948 classified into age groups and months of incidence.

T A B L E II

Causes of Death	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks	2-3 wks	3-4 wks	1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	All ages under 1 yr		
									M.	F.	Tot.
Enterocolitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3	-	3
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Congenital Debility	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Prematurity	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Accidental death	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1

The following Table gives a general survey of infant deaths throughout the year.

T A B L E III

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apl	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Enterocolitis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Congenital Debility	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Prematurity	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accidental Death	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Total - 8

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Comparison of Vital Statistics of Knottingley with total West Riding Urban Districts, West Riding Administrative County, and England and Wales.

T A B L E IV

	Knottingley Urban District	Aggregate West Rid- ing Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England & Wales (Pro- visional figures
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population)	23.3	18.3	18.5	17.9
DEATH RATES (all per 1,000 estimated population)				
All Causes	10.6	11.8	11.3	10.8
Zymotic Diseases (seven principal)	0.21	0.12	0.12	*
Tuberculosis of resp- iratory system	0.52	0.37	0.37	0.44
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.07
Respiratory diseases (excluding tubercul- osis of respiratory system)	1.87	1.34	1.29	*
Cancer	2.08	1.83	1.74	1.86
Heart and circulat- ory diseases	2.40	3.98	3.73	*
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under 1 yr. per 1,000 live births)	36	38	39	34
DIARRHOEA (Deaths in infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	4.46	4.17	4.38	3.3

* Figures not to hand.

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PART TWO

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

The following Table shows the prevalence of infectious diseases throughout the year.

T A B L E V

	Jan/ Mar	Apl/ June	July/ Sept	Oct/ Dec	Deaths	Total	No. admit- ted to hospital
Scarlet Fever	3	10	13	12	-	38	38
Whooping Cough	12	10	1	-	-	23	-
Measles	3	8	31	233	1	275	-
Pneumonia	5	-	2	4	7	11	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	4	-	5	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
	25	28	47	253	8	353	38

Certain of the above figures call for comment.

Measles

This disease has only been compulsorily notifiable since 1940. It is already evident, however, that its incidence follows a two-yearly cycle. The number of cases begins to rise about the month of April of a given year and increases steadily, apart from a "notch" during the months of July and August, until the peak is reached at the end of the year. The number then falls until it is minimal by March of the following year. A year of quiescence then follows and the process is repeated.

It was expected that 1948 would be a "peak" year and this proved to be the case. The incidence of measles cases in the West Riding conformed exactly to the above pattern, though in more localised areas the outbreaks were shorter and sharper, and occurred at different points of the epidemiological curve. In Knottingley the incidence of measles increased sharply in October of 1948, the peak being reached in the middle of November. By the end of the year notifications had fallen off sharply.

It is now accepted that the administration of serum from a person convalescing from the disease affords some protective action. If given within a very short period following exposure it succeeds in at least thirty per cent of cases in preventing an attack altogether, though the immunity so conferred is not lasting. If given a longer period after exposure to infection, the patient has his attack of the disease, but it is much modified in character and complications are rare. At the time the measles epidemic was prevalent in Knottingley a circular letter was sent to all general practitioners in the area explaining that a supply of this serum was available from the County Laboratory at Wakefield.

though shortage of supplies compelled restriction of its use to children under the age of three years, this being the age group in which measles is most harmful.

Diphtheria

It is gratifying to note that no case of diphtheria was notified during the year.

Immunisation

98 children under the age of 5 years and 105 children over the age of 5 years received a full course of primary immunisation against diphtheria. In addition, 296 children received a reinforcing injection.

Immunisation of infants was carried out at the Infant Welfare Clinics at Knottingley and Ferrybridge, and the annual comb-out of the schools was carried out by Dr. Kehelly as in former years.

Scarlet Fever

Although a steady incidence of scarlet fever occurred throughout the year, at no time did the disease assume epidemic proportions. Cases on the whole were mild in character.

Whooping Cough

Whooping cough notifications show a decrease of 9 on those of the previous year. Immunisation against whooping cough has not yet proved to be wholly satisfactory and is not carried out at the Clinics at the present time.

TUBERCULOSIS

In the following Table new cases and mortality are classified.

T A B L E VI

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Resp. M.	Non-Resp. F.	Resp. M.	Non-Resp. F.	Resp. M.	Non-Resp. F.	Resp. M.	Non-Resp. F.
Under 5 years	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
5 and under 15	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
15 and under 25	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 and under 35	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
35 and under 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
45 and under 55	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
55 and under 65	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Page 100

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The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry must be clearly documented, including the date, amount, and purpose of the transaction. This ensures transparency and allows for easy verification of the data.

Furthermore, the document outlines the procedures for handling discrepancies. If there is a difference between the recorded amount and the actual amount, it is crucial to investigate the cause immediately. This could be due to a clerical error, a misinterpretation of the data, or a potential fraud. Once the cause is identified, the records should be corrected, and the necessary steps should be taken to prevent such errors from recurring.

The second part of the document provides a detailed overview of the accounting system used by the organization. It describes the various accounts and how they are maintained. The system is designed to be efficient and accurate, with built-in checks and balances to minimize the risk of errors. The document also includes a list of the accounts and a brief description of each, along with the corresponding ledger pages.

In conclusion, the document stresses the importance of diligent record-keeping and the need to follow established procedures. By adhering to these guidelines, the organization can ensure the integrity of its financial records and maintain the trust of its stakeholders.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the register of tuberculous persons.

T A B L E VII

No. of cases in Register	Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Total in Register
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
At the commencement of 1948	36	20	4	12	72
Notified under Regulations of 1930 for the first time during 1948	3	4	2	4	13
Removed during 1948	8	4	1	1	14
At the end of 1948	31	18	5	17	71

The reasons for removal of cases from the register are given in the following Table.

T A B L E VIII

Entries relating to :-	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Persons who have died	5	-	-	1	6
Persons who have recovered	2	1	-	-	3
Persons who have ceased to reside in the district	1	3	1	-	5

P A R T T H R E E

M A T E R N I T Y A N D C H I L D W E L F A R E

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics were held throughout the year as follows.

Child Welfare Clinics

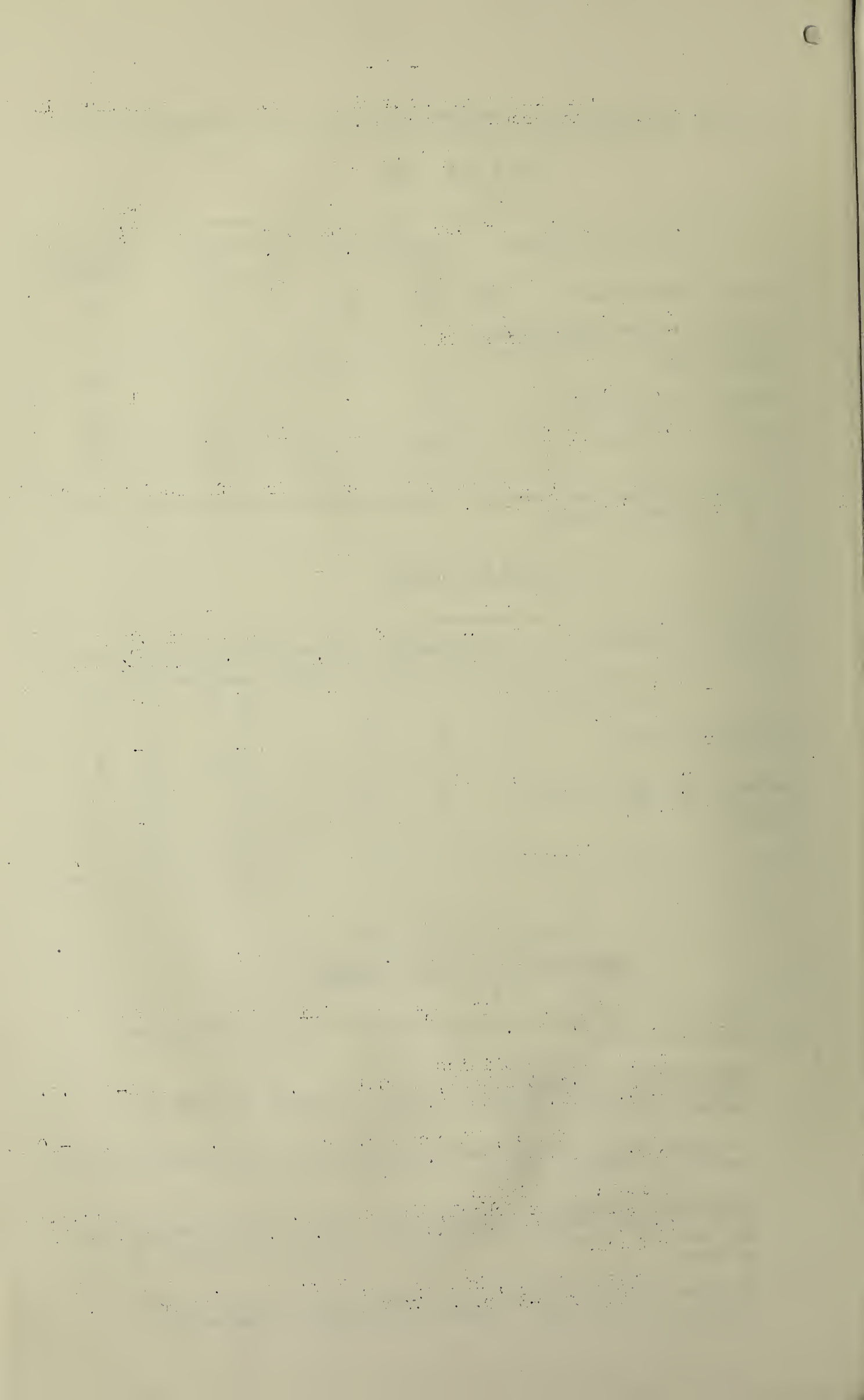
Chapel Street School, Knottingley, Monday at 1-30 p.m.
Average attendance 30.

Wesleyan Chapel, Fishergate, Ferrybridge. Wednesday 1-30 p.m.
Average attendance 35.

Ante-Natal Clinics

Chapel Street School, Knottingley. 1st and 3rd Thursday and 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 1-30 p.m. Average attendance 15 mothers.

Wesleyan Chapel, Fishergate, Ferrybridge. 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 1-30 p.m. Average attendance 20 mothers.



The following proprietary preparations were available at cost price (free in necessitous cases) to all women attending the Clinics.

Ostermilk (Nos. 1 & 2)	Bemax
Humanised Trufood	Virol
Cow & Gate	Virolax
Lactogol	Farex
Ovaltine	Adexolin
Glucodin	

The following were distributed free of charge.

I.C.D. Tablets
 Ferrous Sulphate Tablets
 Viteolin Tablets

During the year 5 women were sent to Castleford Maternity Home; 20 to Leeds Maternity Hospital; 7 to Wakefield General Hospital; 2 to Northgate Lodge, Pontefract; 13 to Walton Hall Maternity Home and 3 to Hazlewood Castle Maternity Home.

For domiciliary confinements there were three midwives in operation, all of whom possess cars.

The following analysis of births occurring during 1948, adjusted by transferred notifications, indicates how the various maternity services and institutions were used.

1. No. of births occurring in the district during 1948

<u>Domiciliary Cases</u>		<u>Total</u>
<u>L.B.</u>	<u>S.B.</u>	
129	3	132
2. <u>Outward Transfers</u>		
1	-	1
3. <u>Inward Transfers</u>		
64	-	64
		<hr/>
		195

Inward Transfers

Castleford Maternity Home	5
Pontefract Nursing Home	13
Leeds Maternity Hospital	20
Wakefield General Hospital	7
Northgate Lodge, Pontefract	2
Walton Hall Maternity Home	13
Private address	1
Hazlewood Maternity Home	3
	<hr/>
	64

Care of Premature Infants

Five premature infants were notified during the year. In each case a special investigation was made and help given as required. In hospital cases there was close liaison between hospitals and Authorities.

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P A R T F O U R

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES

Routine school medical inspections were carried out in the Knottingley schools during the year.

A Clinic session for consultation with the School Medical Officer was held at the Chapel Street School, Knottingley on the second and fourth Monday at 10-0 a.m. The average attendance for this session was 25.

Minor Ailments Clinics, in the charge of the school nurse, were held at the Chapel Street School, Knottingley on Monday and Thursday at 10-0 a.m., the average attendance per day being 15; and at the Wesleyan Chapel, Fishergate, Ferrybridge on Wednesday at 10-0 a.m., the average attendance per day being 18.

P A R T F I V E

HOME NURSING

On 5th July Nurse Lumley was "taken over" by the County Council. The demand for her services is great and Nurse Lumley deserves commendation for the manner in which she has carried out her duties.

P A R T S I X

CARE AND AFTER-CARE

Good liaison has been established between the Health Department and the principal hospitals in Leeds and Wakefield. The case histories of all patients discharged are sent to this office and the cases are followed up by the health visitor, all possible help being given. Liaison is not yet satisfactory with the Pontefract Infirmary but it is expected that an almoner will be appointed to this institution in the near future which should make matters easier.

Home Helps

A Home Help Service was made available during the year, though so far the demand for this service has not been heavy in Knottingley.

P A R T S E V E N

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental Health is now a responsibility of a Sub-Committee of the County Council. Work under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 to 1930 has been undertaken by a Duly Authorised Officer living in Pontefract, and we have had one Mental Deficiency Social Worker, Miss Simons, for work under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

P A R T E I G H T

AMBULANCE SERVICES

The Ambulance Service of the area is now operated on an agency basis on behalf of the County Council, and its administration is the responsibility of the County Ambulance Officer. The call on this service has been exceedingly heavy and has increased greatly as a result of the National Health Service Act, 1946, coming into operation.

THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON

FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE PRESENT TIME

BY NATHANIEL BENTLEY

VOLUME I

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT

1630-1634

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT

1630-1634

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT

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1630-1634

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT

P A R T N I N E

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

The following information is supplementary to that provided by Mr. Whiteley in his Annual Report.

(1) Water Supply

Bacteriological examinations of water supply to Knottingley U.D.C. show:-

No faecal coli per 100 ml.

p.h. value = 8.0

No free chlorine in 1,000,000 parts water.
Class I.

Number of houses supplied from public mains : 2,669
(estimated)

Number of population supplied from public
mains : 9,350
(approx.)

No record is kept of the separate numbers supplied direct to houses or by stand pipes.

(2) Meat Inspection

All meat for the Knottingley area is slaughtered at Pontefract, except one Horse Slaughter House at which 182 carcasses were inspected. In only a few cases was there any condemnation of parts of the offal. During the year there have been 71 visits paid to slaughter-houses and 75 to shops in the district.

P A R T T E N

FOOD POISONING

No case of food-poisoning was notified under the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

JOHN F. FRASER

Medical Officer of Health.

The first part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom. It is shown that the structure of the atom is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are based on the principle of the conservation of energy.

The second part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the experimental results of the study of the structure of the atom. It is shown that the experimental results are in good agreement with the theoretical predictions of the theory of the structure of the atom.

The third part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the applications of the theory of the structure of the atom. It is shown that the theory of the structure of the atom has many important applications in the fields of physics, chemistry, and biology.

The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the future of the theory of the structure of the atom. It is shown that the theory of the structure of the atom is still in the early stages of development, and that there are many important problems that need to be solved in the future.

The fifth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the conclusions of the study. It is shown that the study has shown that the theory of the structure of the atom is a very important and interesting field of research, and that it has many important applications in the fields of physics, chemistry, and biology.

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report for 1948.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
KNOTTINGLEY.

February 1949.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

It is once again my privilege to submit to you my annual report, this being my first full report.

Still we exist under a period of tying regulations which, without doubt, in many ways curb the activities of this department. Despite this fact progress has been made and will be made as much as ever possible. We are looking forward to the time when more normal duties can be undertaken and great improvement achieved.

May I once again record my appreciation to Mr.H. Brummitt, Clerk of the Council, Mr.G.J.Laverick, Surveyor and to those members of the Council and Staff who have helped and given co-operation in all matters.

The details of the works carried out under the various headings are as follows:-

Visits to Premises re.Nuisances (Primary).....	169
Visits to Premises re.Nuisances (Revisits).....	261
Visits to work in progress.....	40
Drains inspected and passed.....	14
Interviews with Owners, Builders etc.....	273
Visits re. Rodent Control.....	92
Visits re. Dirty Conditions.....	39
Premises cleansed from vermin.....	18
Visits re. conversion of privies.....	61
Number of Privies converted to W.C's.....	11
Visits to Schools.....	8
Visits to Shops.....	75
Visits re. Infectious Disease.....	47
Disinfections after infectious disease.....	51
Visits to Salughterhouses (Food Inspection).....	71
Visits to Farms.....	18
Visits to Cowsheds.....	18
Visits to Dairies.....	18
Visits to Refuse Tips.....	66
Visits re. Cleansing.....	27
Sanitary Surveys (Special).....	2
Visits re. Housing Defects (Primary).....	134
Visits re. Housing Defects (Revisits).....	168
Visits to works in progress re. Housing Defects.....	80
Visits to Factories.....	37
Visits re. Special Enquiries.....	151

The above figures with regard to housing repairs and nuisances only include figures where action had to be taken. The numerous cases where it was only necessary to see the owner and have the repairs effected have not been recorded.

FOOD INSPECTION

The central slaughterhouse in Pontefract is still in use for the slaughter of the whole of the meat supply for this district. Primary inspection is carried out by the Pontefract Inspectors though I make periodical inspections at the central depot in Chapel Street.

FOOD INSPECTION (continued)

A new regulation from the Ministry of Food concentrated pig slaughtering (cottager's pigs only) at Messrs Petty's, Chapel Street. This regulation has now further been widened and two additional slaughter points are available. The latter, though, only being available to members of two certain Pig Clubs. Though no powers are possessed I frequently inspect these pig carcasses, both at these slaughter points and in places of emergency slaughter, in order to give my opinion on the condition.

Regular inspection is maintained of Food Premises in the district, both premises and ware coming under survey. Food amounting to 58 lbs. in weight has been condemned during the year, this being a very small amount.

Alterations made to the only Ice Cream Premises in the district have brought about a big improvement. Special visits are made and at all times the premises have been satisfactory.

A survey has been made during the year of all Food Premises in the district and circulars have been sent out notifying all occupiers of the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act 1938. This has been intended as a guide for the present but when restrictions on building licences are cut even more, then a drive will have to be made to ensure that a good standard is achieved and maintained.

Regular inspection is made of the horse carcasses at Messrs Hardy's, Hill Top, Knottingley. During the year there have been 182 horses killed for human consumption. This shows a marked increase over the previous years. It is interesting to note that of 24 Authorities who listed their returns we are next to the lowest, the total number of horses killed in these areas being 62,097 for 1948, an increase of 32,073 since 1945. There are no horse meat shops in this district, the whole of the horse meat slaughtered being transported to other districts, chiefly Hull and Doncaster.

CLEANSING OF PREMISES FROM VERMIN.

Fortunately we are not troubled a great deal from vermin and during the year only 18 cases were dealt with. I have included in this return "blackclocks" and "crickets" as vermin but not rodents, the latter being dealt with separately, later.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The estimated number of water closets at the year end was 2,683 and the estimated number of privies was 44 and pail closets 14.

Conversion of 11 privies to waterclosets has been achieved during the year and it is hoped that in the future, as the district develops, we shall be able to convert the majority of these privies that are left.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Registered premises and persons in the area are as follows:-

No. of Cowkeepers	11
No. of Wholesalers	3
No. of Retailers	5
No. of Cows	62
No. of Cowsheds	14

Satisfactory milk samples have been obtained in routine work.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE

The combined system of public cleansing and the collection of salvage has worked as well as possible during the year. It has been unfortunate though that both waggons have had to have a complete overhaul in order to keep them on the road. As pointed out in my last annual report, owing to the age and long service given by these waggons, some thought should be given to the purchasing of a new waggon.

A controlled tip is now in operation and progressing satisfactorily. A large amount of refuse is dealt with in this district and on two days a week, when both waggons are taking part simultaneously in refuse collection, the pressure of work for one man on the tip is tremendous. It is at times like this that constant watch has to be kept on the method of layering the refuse.

The following materials were collected and sold as refuse during the year:-

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>
Paper	80	3
Textiles	2	15
Bones		14
Kitchen Waste	14	2
Bottles amounted to 244 dozen.		

Total income from above (estimated) £602. 4s. 0d. This income shows an estimated increase of £52. 14s. 0d over the previous year.

HOUSING

Much improvement has been obtained in many houses in this district. A great majority of time is spent in visits with regard to repairs but this, in my opinion, is time very well spent. Though practically all complaints received in this direction have some foundation and therefore must be attended to, it is not this but the desire for new accommodation that first sponsors the complaint.

In seven cases, during the past year, we have found conditions so bad that it has been necessary to re-house the tenants and make a demolition order on the property. In boarder line cases arrangement as to the "expectation of life" for the property has been agreed with the owners. I am looking forward to more normal times when the Council can complete a full Clearance programme.

Routine inspections have been made from time to time to Council Houses. It has been necessary during the year to have two families ejected on account of dirty conditions. In extreme cases this is the only satisfactory way of dealing with them. Without a doubt it shows to advantage in the neighbouring houses but I am still not satisfied that the time has come when supervision can be relaxed.

I am quoting the following figures to show the very adequate way in which this Council are dealing with the housing problem so relieving bad housing conditions in the district and, to a certain extent, overcrowding:-

No. of houses owned by the Council at 1/1/48.....	768
No. in course of construction at 1/1/48.....	212
No. completed from 1/1/48 to 31/12/48.....	206
No. in course of construction at 31/12/48.....	26

The above does not include the number of private enterprise houses which have been completed during the year, a project which the Council wholeheartedly backs.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Apart from measles there has been no serious outbreak of any infectious disease this year. The number of measles cases notified amounted to 243, this however does not include the first four months of 1948 when measles were not notified to this office.

Routine work of inspections, disinfection and the keeping of records has been carried out.

RODENT CONTROL

Still working to Ministerial orders a great amount of work has been undertaken in the last year. We have had no serious major infestations and all minor ones have been promptly dealt with. The sewage disposal works and refuse tips are adequately dealt with by arrangement with the West Riding Agricultural Executive Committee.

CANAL BOATS

Periodical inspection is made to canal boats lying in the yards of Messrs John Harker Limited, Knottingley. There have been sixteen new registrations during the year. In no case has there been any contravention of the Regulations.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the Members of the Council for their kindness during the year, also Dr. Fraser for his kind supervision.

I am, Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

Kenneth Birtley
Sanitary Inspector.